

9 November 1978

Executive Registry
78-3527

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable William G. Claytor
The Secretary of the Navy

SUBJECT : Mediterranean Study

1. While still assigned as Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe, there seemed to me to be a need for something which could help military commanders, commanding officers of ships or, for that matter, any U.S. Government representative in the Mediterranean area to understand the continuing complex forces which influence decisions in that part of the world. Existing material provided good historic, geographic, and contemporary coverage, but I could find nothing which identified those currents of history, culture, or tradition which cause people around the Mediterranean littoral to see and react to issues. In short, I felt that our commanders in the Mediterranean needed some form of succinct help in understanding why the nations of the area react in the way they do.

2. ISA and Navy agreed to support a project which would cause papers to be written by eminent scholars in the United States attempting to identify the factors which influence decision-makers and the general public in this region. These papers were discussed in a series of seminars at The School of Advanced International Studies at the Johns Hopkins University. From these papers and discussions, key factors were identified and distilled into short precis which a busy commander could read to gain the essence of a country's or region's behavior. The attached volume is the result. It is not meant to be a definitive work, but rather a prototype of similar volumes about other parts of the world which might be produced if this one proves useful. If the principal goal of this endeavor has been met, this work should reflect fundamental, long-term factors which time and events will change only slowly.

3. Copies are being distributed to interested offices in the Naval Establishment. It is my hope that they will find their way to the operating forces and especially into the Sixth Fleet turnover package for commanding officers. I wanted you to have one for yourself and am enclosing a copy.



STANSFIELD TURNER